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THE MIGHTY AVENGERS™

CAPTAIN MARVEL... ON THE BRINK OF *OBLIVION!*

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JULY
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Stan Lee PRESENTS:

BOMBSHELLS!

MERE MOMENTS AGO, THE GLEAMING EXPERIMENTAL ROCKET HAD STOOD MOTIONLESS ON A TEST PAD AT THE KENNEDY SPACE CENTER IN FLORIDA...

NOW, IT KNIFES THROUGH EARTH'S THERMOSPHERE AT SPEEDS THAT ARE UNATTAINABLE BY MILITARY OR CIVILIAN SPACE CRAFT...

...BUT EASILY MATCHED BY THE LIVING ENERGY OF CAPTAIN MARVEL!

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SOMETHING'S VERY WRONG HERE! THIS SHIP WASN'T SUPPOSED TO TAKE OFF... IT WAS ON THE PAD FOR TEST-FIRINGS! OF COURSE, LATELY, A LOT OF THINGS HAVE HAPPENED AT THE CAPE THAT WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO!

"I THOUGHT THE AVENGERS HAD PUT AN END TO THAT WHEN WE CAPTURED THOSE ALIEN "DIRE WRAITH" CREATURES WHO'D BEEN SABOTAGING THE SPACE PROGRAM!

"BUT WE'D JUST BARELY GOTTEN OUR HANDS ON THEM, WHEN THIS SHIP SUDDENLY BLASTED OFF WITHOUT WARNING!"

I CAUGHT UP TO IT EASILY ENOUGH... BUT I'D BETTER CHECK IN WITH THE OTHERS, BEFORE I GO ANY FURTHER!

RELEASING A SMALL BIT OF HER AMAZING ENERGY IN THE FORM OF RADIO WAVES...

...CAPTAIN MARVEL QUICKLY MAKES CONTACT WITH THE AVENGERS WHO'VE GATHERED AT THE SPACE CENTER'S COMMUNICATIONS COMPLEX.

...AWAITING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS!

GIVE THE INTERIOR A THOROUGH GOING OVER, C.M. WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT ROCKET IS POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE...AND THE WASP MAY BE TRAPPED ON BOARD!

MEANWHILE, IN THE COMMAND MODULE OF THE RUN-AWAY ROCKET...

ORBIT ACHIEVED! JUST A FEW MINUTES MORE, AND I'LL BE--!

AARRGH!

THAT WAS DR. CATHER AT THE CONTROLS--

--THE MAN WHO DESIGNED THIS ROCKET! IF I'D KNOWN HE WAS THERE, I'D HAVE COME THROUGH THE CABIN WINDOW AS SOMETHING OTHER THAN LIGHT!

I'LL APOLOGIZE FOR THE BLINDING RADIANCE LATER! FIRST, I'VE GOT TO SEE IF I CAN FIND...

...THE WASP!

OHHH...

COMING UPON THE TINY WOMAN AT THE REAR OF THE CABIN--

--CAPTAIN MARVEL INSTANTLY WILLS HERSELF TO HUMAN FORM.

JAN, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

LET YOU KNOW WHEN THE ROOM STOPS SPINNING!

WHAT HAPPENED?!

NOT SURE... MUST HAVE SLAMMED INTO THE BULK-HEAD WHEN CATHER HIT THAT SWITCH!

THEN DR. CATHER LAUNCHED THE ROCKET HIMSELF?!

I GUESS SO. I...

C.M.-- LOOK OUT!

BUT AS CAPTAIN MARVEL TURNS...

NO!!

CAUGHT IN THE ENERGY DISCHARGE OF THE STRANGE SIDEARM, THE AVENGER IS GONE IN AN INSTANT.

YOU... YOU KILLED HER! YOU MONSTER!

STUNNED BY HER BIO-ELECTRIC WASP'S STING, THE BODY OF "DR. CATHER" BEGINS TO SHIMMER...

...AND CHANGE!

YOU... ARE A MONSTER!

MONSTER? I AM A DIRE WRAITH OF THE DARK NEBULA!

TO MY WAY OF THINKING, IT IS YOU WHO ARE THE MONSTER!

SUDDENLY...

RUMMBBLL

THE STAR-DRIVE'S POWER LEVELS ARE REACHING THE CRITICAL STAGE! IF I DON'T GET THEM UNDER CONTROL AT ONCE--!

FOR SEVERAL FEVERISH MINUTES, THE GROTESQUE FIGURE NURSES THE CONTROLS OF THE EXPERIMENTAL CRAFT--

--UNTIL, FINALLY...

THE ENERGY INDICATORS HAVE DROPPED OUT OF THE DANGER ZONE! I'M SAFE NOW!

GUESS AGAIN!

AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A VILLAGE IN THE TINY EASTERN EUROPEAN NATION OF TRANSIA...

...A LOCAL DOCTOR COMES TO HIS DOOR IN ANSWER TO INCESSANT KNOCKING.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT!

YES? WHAT IS THE...

...MATTER?

I AM PIETRO MAXIMOFF, AND I COME IN SEARCH OF BOVA. SHE IS INSIDE, YES?

Y-Y-YES, BUT--!

WHERE?

THE BACK ROOM...

...BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW? I TOLD NO ONE--!

LOCKJAW PICKED UP HER SCENT AND TRACKED HER HERE!

LOCKJAW?

OH...YES, YOU...MUST BE LOCKJAW.

MURRFF!

AT THE DOOR TO THE BACK ROOM, PIETRO PAUSES... ENTERING WITH UNCOMMON SLOWNESS FOR ONE WHO IS THE MUTANT KNOWN AS **QUICKSILVER!**

QUIETLY, REVERENTLY, HE APPROACHES THE BIZARRE FIGURE THAT LIES ABED.

ONCE SHE HAD BEEN A SIMPLE COW OF THE FIELDS...UNTIL A MASTER SCIENTIST TURNED HER INTO SOMETHING MORE THAN HUMAN. YEARS AGO, AS MIDWIFE, SHE HELPED BRING PIETRO INTO THE WORLD.

BOVA--?

PIETRO? THANK THE CREATOR, YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

WHAT OF YOUR SISTER ...WANDA?

SHE IS ALSO WELL.

I FOUND THE RUINS OF YOUR CABIN IN THE HILLS... YOU'VE BEEN HURT. WHO DID THIS TO YOU?

I KNEW NOT HIS NAME AT THE TIME, BUT I HAVE LEARNED IT SINCE...

HE IS CALLED MAGNETO.

MAGNETO.

MY FATHER.

HE SHALL PAY FOR THIS!

HUNDREDS OF MILES OUT IN SPACE...

YOU KILLED A FRIEND OF MINE, WRAITH! DON'T TEMPT ME--!

IF YOU KILL ME, YOU KILL YOURSELF... AND ENDANGER YOUR ENTIRE PLANET!

THE SHIP'S DRIVE IS UNSTABLE... NOT SURPRISING, AS MY BROTHER WRAITHS AND I HAD TO USE YOUR PRIMITIVE TECHNOLOGY IN ITS CONSTRUCTION.

THE EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED "DR. CATHER'S" PROJECT WAS HARDLY ADEQUATE!

"WE SABOTAGED OTHER PROJECTS AT THE CAPE--BOTH TO SECURE NEEDED EQUIPMENT AND CRIPPLE COMPETING PROJECTS.

"EVENTUALLY, MY BROTHERS BEGAN MAKING RAIDS IN THE GUISE OF THE ROCKETEERS... RECKLESS, BUT NECESSARY. TIME WAS RUNNING OUT--

--AND BETTER TO DEAL WITH TERRESTRIAL POWERS SUCH AS YOU AVENGERS, THAN FACE THE MIGHT OF OUR SORCEROUS WRAITH-SISTERS!

THEY TOOK OVER OUR INVASION OF EARTH, AND NEARLY EXTERMINATED MY KIND!* BUT OUR ESCAPE SHIP WAS NOT YET READY TO CARRY US ALL, AND THE SISTERS WERE CLOSING IN ON US!

*SEE ROM #48!

SO I DECEIVED MY BROTHERS. THEY BECAME A DIVERSION FOR MY OWN ESCAPE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN ABOUT ENDANGERING THE PLANET?

"AS I SAID, THE SHIP'S DRIVE IS UNSTABLE. IF I CANNOT KEEP ITS POWER LEVELS WITHIN A CERTAIN RANGE BEFORE I LEAVE ORBIT, THE DRIVE GENERATORS WILL INVERT...

"...KILLING US AND TURNING THE SHIP INTO A FLYING MASS OF ANTI-MATTER THAT WOULD RAIN DOWN ON YOUR WORLD, OBLITERATING WHATEVER IT STRUCK!"

SO, YOU DARE NOT FIRE!

I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU LEAVE ORBIT, EITHER! YOU HAVE TOO MUCH TO ANSWER FOR!

YOU CANNOT FORCE ME TO RETURN US TO EARTH! THERE I COULD ONLY FALL INTO THE HANDS OF THE WRAITH-SISTERS! I WOULD RATHER DIE HERE THAN FACE THEM!

AS THE WRAITH ARGUES WITH THE WASP, NEITHER OF THEM ARE AWARE OF THE INVISIBLE ENERGY FORM WHICH SLIPS INTO THE CABIN THROUGH THE VERY SUBSTANCE OF THE DECK!

CAPTAIN MARVEL LIVES!

WHEN CAPTAIN AMERICA SAID THE SHIP WAS POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE, I NEVER DREAMED IT COULD BE *THAT* EXPLOSIVE!

AND BY THE STATE OF WRAITH SCIENCE, I KNOW HE'S NOT KIDDING! HIS RAY GUN WOULD HAVE DISINTEGRATED ME...

"...IF I HADN'T BEEN ABLE TO TURN INTO X-RAYS AND SINK THROUGH THE DECK TO SAFETY! EVEN SO, I WAS SHAKEN ENOUGH THAT IT TOOK ME A FEW MINUTES TO GET MY HEAD BACK TOGETHER!"

HOW CAN I LET THE WASP KNOW I'M OKAY WITHOUT DISTRACTING HER?

AND DO NOT TRY TO STUN ME AND TAKE OVER THE CONTROLS, HUMAN! YOU COULD NEVER MASTER THEM IN TIME TO AVERT CATASTROPHE!

UH-OH! FROM THE SOUNDS OF THAT, ANY HAPPY REUNIONS WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER I RADIO FOR THE CAVALRY!

WITHIN INSTANTS...

...AND THAT'S THE CURRENT SITUATION, VISION!

STAY WITH THE SHIP, MARVEL. STAND BY, IN CASE THE WASP NEEDS ASSISTANCE, BUT DO NOT REVEAL YOUR PRESENCE UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY! HELP WILL BE ON THE WAY!

WILL DO. OUT!

STARFOX! YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH STAR-DRIVE ENGINES--!

SINCE I WAS A NIMBLE YOUTH, VISION! WHY, BACK ON TITAN, ONE OF THE EARLIEST THINGS WE LEARNED WAS--!

YES, YES! YOU AND I MUST INTERCEPT THE CRAFT AS IT PASSES BY IN ORBIT... THAT'S OUR ONLY HOPE OF CATCHING IT! WANDA AND CAPTAIN AMERICA WILL REMAIN HERE ON GUARD!

JUST A MINUTE, VISION! AS DANGEROUS AS THIS WRAITH IS, SHOULDN'T WE ALL GO?

NO, CAP. FROM WHAT CAPTAIN MARVEL REPORTED, THERE MUST BE AT LEAST ONE FEMALE WRAITH IN THIS AREA!

AND SHE WILL NO DOUBT BE AFTER THE MALE WRAITHS WE CAPTURED EARLIER,* WE MUST HAVE AVENGERS ON DUTY HERE, TO COVER THAT EVENTUALITY.

YOU HEARD WHAT HE SAID, GENERAL! LET'S CHECK ON OUR CAPTIVES!

HE'S RIGHT, AS USUAL. SO, WHY DO I SET THE FEELING THAT THERE'S SOMETHING BESIDES LOGIC BEHIND THAT COOL TONE OF COMMAND?

*LAST ISSUE.

HIGH OUT OVER THE BANANA RIVER SOAR THE TWO AVENGERS. AND THEN, WHEN THEY NEAR THE ANCHORED YACHT THAT HAD BROUGHT THEM HERE...

SPLOOSH

STARFOX IS GONE BENEATH THE SURFACE FOR LITTLE MORE THAN A MINUTE, BEFORE THE WATERS BEGIN TO CHURN AND BUBBLE...

...WITH THE RELEASE OF AIR FROM SPECIAL BALLAST TANKS! AND THEN, AN AVENGERS QUINJET BOBS TO THE SURFACE, THE TITAN-BORN AVENGER AT HER CONTROLS!

ANOTHER MOMENT, AND THE MIGHTY CRAFT BLASTS SKYWARD...

...AND THE VISION MENTALLY LOWERS HIS BODY'S DENSITY TO SLIP ABOARD IN MIDAIR!

AND SOON... I HOPE I WASN'T TOO CURT WITH CAP. I WOULDN'T WANT TO ALIENATE HIM... HE'S TOO IMPORTANT TO MY AVENGERS.

I WILL NEED HIM ON MY SIDE IN THE DAYS TO COME!

THIS IS NO TIME TO BE SOMBER, VISION!

WE FLY TO ENGAGE THE ENEMY, TO GIVE SOLACE TO A LOVELY WOMAN, AND TO SAVE A WORLD!

YOU HAVE A TALENT, MY FRIEND, FOR MAKING THE DEADLIEST OF SITUATIONS SOUND APPEALING!

BUT OF COURSE! I LIVE FOR EXCITEMENT! WHAT ELSE IS THERE?

WHILE, IN A SPECIALLY SECURED COMPLEX, DEEP WITHIN THE SPACE CENTER...

YOU'RE SURE THE SCARLET WITCH WILL KEEP US APPRAISED OF THE SITUATION?

YES, SIR, SHE'LL CALL US AS SOON AS SHE HEARS ANYTHING FROM THE VISION!

I TELL YOU, CAP, I'M STILL SHOCKED! DR. CATHER HAD BEEN THE HIGHEST RANKING CIVILIAN SCIENTIST AT THE CAPE FOR SOME TIME!

FINDING OUT THAT HE WAS AN ALIEN CREATURE, AND WAS USING NASA EQUIPMENT TO BUILD SOME MANNER OF STAR DRIVE... WELL, IT MAKES MY SKIN CRAWL!

LET'S HOPE WE'VE CAUGHT ALL THE WRAITHS WHO WERE WORKING HERE, GENERAL BRIDGES! YOU SAY OUR CAPTIVES ARE BEING HELD IN AN ISOLATION LAB?

RIGHT AS RAIN, CAP! OUR SPACE SCIENTISTS ARE ALREADY TAKING NUMBERS FOR A CHANCE TO INSPECT THEM!

I HOPE YOU'LL BE TAKING PROPER PRECAUTIONS! EVEN THOUGH THE SCARLET WITCH HEXED THEM INTO THEIR TRUE FORMS, THESE WRAITHS ARE STILL PRETTY DANGEROUS CHARACTERS!

A-1
ISOLATION BLOCK

CRYONICS ANALYSIS

THEY WON'T BE HARMING ANYONE, CAP! SEE FOR YOURSELF!

GOOD LORD!

COME IN, HUMAN! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM OUR WRAITH BROTHERS! AS YOU CAN SEE, THEY HAVE ALL EXPIRED!

DON'T HESITATE, CAP! GO ON, I'M SURE YOU'D LIKE A CLOSER LOOK!

YOU... YOU'RE NOT GENERAL BRIDGES!

OH, BUT I AM! I HAVE BEEN FOR A NUMBER OF DAYS NOW...

HIS GRIP... IS LIKE IRON!

...EVER SINCE I DEVOURED HIS MIND! THE ORIGINAL GENERAL BRIDGES DIED IN TRANSIT... BUT HIS MEMORIES LIVE ON IN ME!

JUST AS YOUR MEMORIES WILL LIVE ON IN ONE OF MY SISTERS!

WHAT?!?

YOUR MIND HOLDS KNOWLEDGE THAT WILL BE OF GREAT USE TO WRAITHKIND, CAPTAIN!

MEET YOUR SUCCESSOR!

THIS IS THE ONE THE OTHERS HOLD IN SUCH HIGH ESTEEM? HAH! HIS KNEES ALREADY BUCKLE IN FEAR!

YOU JUST KEEP THINKING THAT--!

AT THE LAST POSSIBLE INSTANT, EVEN AS THE DIRE WRAITH'S BARBED TONGUE LASHES OUT, THE LIVING LEGEND KICKS OFF FROM THE FLOOR WITH ALL HIS MIGHT...

...SO THAT THE DEADLY BARB MISSES HIM--

--AND SLAYS HIS CAPTOR!

YOU CANNOT ESCAPE, HUMAN! YOU ARE SEALED IN WITH US!

IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME--!

WHILE...

I'LL GIVE YOU ONE LAST CHANCE TO SHUT DOWN THE ENGINES!

YOU MUST BE MAD! DON'T YOU REALIZE HOW LITTLE BARGAINING POWER YOU HAVE?

I WILL NOT RELINQUISH THE CONTROLS OR RETURN US TO EARTH! TO DO SO IS SUICIDAL! YOUR CHOICE IS TO KILL ME NOW AND DIE QUICKLY, OR ALLOW ME TO ESCAPE INTO DEEP SPACE...AND TAKE YOUR CHANCES!

THE ENGINES GROW LESS STABLE WITH EACH PASSING MOMENT! IF WE DON'T LEAVE ORBIT SOON, YOU'LL DOOM YOUR WORLD!

THEN I'D SAY WE MUST DO SOMETHING QUICKLY!

EH?

VISION, ARE YOU EVER A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! I MUST NOT LEAVE THE CONTROLS! YOU CAN'T BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND THEM!

PERHAPS NOT...

"...BUT AT THIS MOMENT, OUR QUINJET IS DOCKING WITH YOUR SHIP! AND THE PILOT OF OUR CRAFT IS AN EXPERT AT SUCH THINGS!"

HELLO, ALL! MAY I BE OF ASSISTANCE?

OVER THERE, STAR-FOX!

DOESN'T LOOK SO COMPLEX TO ME. AH, OF COURSE... THERE! THAT DOES IT... ALL DRIVE SYSTEMS ARE DOWN!

SIMPLE STUFF.

IT'S NOT OVER YET, STARFOX. WE STILL HAVE TO RETURN "DR. CATHER" TO THE CAPE AND--!

NO! YOU'LL NOT TAKE ME BACK THERE!

AH, STARFOX? I BELIEVE YOU WERE CRAVING EXCITEMENT--?

YES, VISION! WHAT OF ...IT?

GET AWAY FROM THOSE CONTROLS!!

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T COMPLY, SHAPE-CHANGER!

HOWEVER, IF IT'S A BATTLE YOU WANT, I'LL BE HAPPY TO OBLIGE!

GNNEFF!

YOU ARE TOO STRONG FOR ME, AVENGER! THUS, I CHOOSE DEATH... FOR US ALL!

KLIK-A-KLAK

IN RESPONSE TO THE ROW OF SWITCHES JAMMED DOWN BY THE WRAITH, A SERIES OF EXPLOSIVE BOLTS ARE ACTIVATED, BLOWING THE FORWARD HATCH...

...AND OPENING THE CABIN TO THE VACUUM OF SPACE!

EVERYONE GRAB HOLD OF SOMETHING ...I'LL TRY TO SEAL THE BREACH!

YOW! GRAB HOLD OF WHAT?!?

TAKE IT EASY, JAN! I'VE GOT YOU!

C.M.! WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?!

NO TIME NOW!

VISION-- HERE!

REALIZING THAT THE VISION HAS INCREASED HIS MASS ENOUGH TO RESIST THE RUSH OF ESCAPING AIR, CAPTAIN MARVEL PASSES HIM THE HELMET...

...EVEN AS SHE IS SUCKED OUT OF THE SEAT!

BUT BEFORE SHE CAN SUCCUMB TO THE HARSH VOID OF SPACE, SHE AGAIN MANAGES TO TRANSFORM HER PHYSICAL BODY INTO SENTIENT ENERGY!

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE SPECIALLY MODIFIED QUINJET SEPARATES FROM THE NOW HARMLESS ROCKET...

YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?

YES :SNIFF: JUST A LITTLE NOSE BLEED, THAT'S ALL!

HAVE A TISSUE!

THANKS.

I'M SORRY THERE WASN'T A CHANCE TO TELL YOU SOONER... THAT I WAS ALIVE, I MEAN!

THAT'S OKAY! THE IMPORTANT THING IS...

"...THAT EVERYONE'S FINALLY SAFE AND SOUND!"

COME OUT, HUMAN, AND MEET YOUR FATE!

YOU CANNOT STAY HIDDEN FROM US FOREVER!

I DON'T INTEND TO!

THIS IS BIG EAGLE. AS SOON AS YOU'RE IN POSITION--

--SAY "GO. THEN, AFTER 40 SECONDS, EXECUTE MANEUVER 6-B.

GO!

...39...38... 37...ALMOST IN LINE...

...30...29...

SISTER, OVER HERE! HE--!

...27... 28...

WHUMP

USING THE FALLEN WRAITH AS A SPRINGBOARD, THE SENTINEL OF FREEDOM AGAIN LAUNCHES HIMSELF ACROSS THE LABORATORY...

...24...23...

SISTER!

...19...18... JUST ONE MORE SWING AND...

KRAK

...THERE! 14... 13...

YOU'VE LED US A MERRY CHASE, HUMAN. BUT NOW, YOU'VE NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN!

...4...3...2... 1... NOW!

SUDDENLY, THE HEAVY SECURITY-SEALED DOOR IS BLOWN INWARD, CATCHING THE WRAITHS OFF GUARD--

--AND DRIVING ONE DIRECTLY INTO THE HIGH VOLTAGE CABLE HELD BY CAPTAIN AMERICA!

CAP, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? I STARTED MY HEX TO BLOW OPEN THE DOOR A BIT EARLY AND--

OMIGOD.

YOU... TIMED IT JUST ABOUT RIGHT, WANDA.

CAP, BEHIND YOU!

THE SCARLET WITCH'S WARNING COMES NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON...

KANG

AND THEN, THE MUTANT AVENGER UNLEASHES HER UNCANNY HEX SPHERE ON THE LAST REMAINING WRAITH...

THE UNPREDICTABLE HEX ENERGIES SEND MINIATURE SEISMIC QUAKES RIPPLING ACROSS THE LAB...

...KNOCKING THE WRAITH AWAY FROM CAP--

--AND DIRECTLY INTO A RUPTURING CRYONICS TANK!

HUNDREDS OF GALLONS OF LIQUID NITROGEN WASH OVER THE ALIEN MONSTER!

AND, IN JUST SECONDS...

IT'S ALL RIGHT, WANDA. IT'S OVER NOW.

YOU DID WHAT YOU HAD TO DO!

HOURS LATER, AS THE AVENGERS BID THEIR FAREWELLS TO THE CAPE'S NEW HEAD OF MILITARY SECURITY...

WE REALLY CAN NEVER THANK YOU ENOUGH. AND WITH THE IMPROVED DETECTION EQUIPMENT STARFOX SET UP, OUR WRAITH PROBLEM IS OVER.

YES, MAJOR. BUT I'M AFRAID THIS WAS JUST THE FIRST BATTLE IN A LONG WAR FOR US.

NOT NECESSARILY, OL' TIMER!

EH?

NICK FURY! WHAT BRINGS SHIELD'S* HEAD HONCHO DOWN HERE?

SAME THING THAT BROUGHT YOU... THE WRAITH-WAR!

*SUPREME HEADQUARTERS INTELLIGENCE ESPIONAGE LAW-ENFORCEMENT DIVISION.

IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE FINALLY GOT THOSE MONSTERS ON THE RUN!* YOU FANCY-PANTS TYPES DID A GREAT JOB; BUT SHIELD WILL BE RUNNING THINGS FROM HERE ON...

...ORDERS FROM THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF!

*SEE UPCOMING ISSUES OF ROM!

WELL, IF YOUR BOYS NEED A HAND, DON'T HESITATE TO CALL!

I HAD HOPED THAT AUTHORITY OVER ANTI-WRAITH ACTIVITIES WOULD FALL TO THE AVENGERS. I HAD NOT ANTICIPATED THIS... IT COULD SERIOUSLY UNDERMINE MY LONG-RANGE PLANS!

I SHALL HAVE TO TAKE STEPS TO INSURE THAT THERE ARE NO FURTHER SET-BACKS! NOTHING MUST INTERFERE WITH THE EXPANSION OF THE AVENGERS!

AND IN LOS ANGELES, WHERE HAWKEYE AND HIS YOUNG BRIDE MOCKINGBIRD HAVE CHECKED INTO ONE OF THE CITY'S FINER HOTELS...

THINK OF IT, HONEY, SOMEWHERE OUT THERE IS A CHUNK OF LAND JUST WAITING TO BECOME HOME TO THE AVENGERS' EXPANSION TEAM!

TOMORROW, YOU AND I ARE GONNA FIND IT! AND WHEN WE DO, THINGS ARE REALLY GONNA TAKE OFF!

NEXT ISSUE: THE VISION GOES TO WASHINGTON, HAWKEYE FINDS HIS DREAM HOUSE, THE WASP AND STARFOX CRASH A VERY STRANGE PARTY, AND CAPTAIN MARVEL CONFRONTS HER FAMILY! WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T MISS...

"GATHERINGS!"

ZONE